

**To:** Gerhardstein, Ben[Gerhardstein.Ben@epa.gov]  
**From:** Steve Brittle  
**Sent:** Sun 8/6/2017 10:40:36 PM  
**Subject:** Re: RE: Hickmans

Thanks.

I have finally received a response from ADEQ after requesting, under Arizona's public records laws, a copy of any air monitoring for ammonia conducted by the agency itself near the Hickman's facilities in Arlington and Tonopah. But it is quite evident that the agency itself did not conduct the monitoring, now that I have reviewed the provided documents. I am still waiting on the MCAQD to provide the documents requesting the same, but I suspect the response will be the same. I am re-requesting the ADEQ, making it quite clear I am looking for any ammonia air monitoring conducted by the agency's staff. If/when I get a response, I'll pass that on.

Due to the discovery requests in our federal lawsuit against Hickman's for failing to provide written follow up notices required under EPCRA Section 304, we have already been provided similar documents, so they were easy to recognize.

What is interesting is that people often smell ammonia near both Hickman's facilities, and the odor threshold for ammonia is about 5ppm. Obviously, "monitoring" results that show no detection of any ammonia are absurd on face value.

Also, the worst ammonia odors/concentration occur at night, according to community complaints, when the thermal of the daytime heat cool down and air sinks back to the desert floor. None of the monitoring seems to occur then, however.

Thanks,

Steve Brittle  
DWAZ

On Thursday, August 3, 2017, 6:49:32 AM MST, Gerhardstein, Ben <Gerhardstein.Ben@epa.gov> wrote:

Hey Steve – I shared this information with the ATSDR petition coordinator. We are continuing to review your petition request and hope to provide you, within two months, a letter about whether ATSDR can provide a meaningful response to your petition and what ATSDR public health activities we may conduct in response to your request.

Best regards,

Ben

**From:** Steve Brittle [mailto:smbrITTLE@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 2, 2017 3:30 PM  
**To:** Gerhardstein, Ben <Gerhardstein.Ben@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Hickmans

I have requested the ammonia monitoring info from ADEQ and the MCAQD. I have just been told that a CD is being mailed to me from ADEQ, but a couple of ammonia air monitoring reports were emailed, and these were the air monitoring conducted by Hickman's, and not monitoring conducted by ADEQ or MCAQD. I don't know if what you received from these agencies was their own, or conducted by Hickman's, but see the attached document.

On Tuesday, July 18, 2017, 9:33:04 PM MST, Gerhardstein, Ben <Gerhardstein.Ben@epa.gov> wrote:

Thanks. We've been gathering all the available air monitoring data from the county and state. Trying to move the decision-making process in your petition along.

Ben Gerhardstein

ATSDR Region 9

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On Jul 18, 2017, at 9:23 PM, Steve Brittle <[smbrittle@yahoo.com](mailto:smbrittle@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Just drive by the Arlington facilities, where you'll see the barns, and the rotary dryer that operates there. The place is huge, and there is usually a strong ammonia odor there. The main road takes you right by the facility. They have been majorly cleaning up around the Arlington facility for two weeks now, BTW. Then go west to the Arlington Elementary School. You'll pass by some residential areas as you do that.

The Hickman's Tonopah facility is just blocks from the center of the little town. Not much there, but you'll see how proximate the facility is to the rest of the businesses and homes. There is a big RV park that has a huge winter population there also. If you go further down the road west of the Tonopah facility, you'll see a few rural homes.

On Tuesday, July 18, 2017, 8:32:41 PM PDT, Gerhardstein, Ben <Gerhardstein.Ben@epa.gov>

wrote:

Hey Steve - I am going to drive through the areas around the Hickmans Arlington and tonopah facilities tomorrow. Anywhere in particular you suggest visiting?

-Ben

Ben Gerhardstein

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